8. On page 51, line 4, delete "GPD" and insert --GFD-- (both occurrences).

9. On page 51, line 10, delete "GPD" and insert --GFD--.

10. On each of pages 1-75, in the upper right hand corner, delete the reference to "PCT/US97/14239".

II. IN THE CLAIMS:

1. Kindly amend the presently pending claims as set forth below. For the convenience of the examiner and the applicant, all claims being examined are set forth, regardless of whether amendments are made herein.

93. (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1] 122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising boron, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having a boron content of less than about two percent (2%) of the boron content of said feedwater stream.

94. (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1] 122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising boron, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having a boron content of about one and one-half percent (1.5%), or less, of the boron content of said feedwater stream.

3 ~~95.~~ (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1] 122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising boron, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having a boron content of about one percent (1%), or less, of the boron content of said feedwater stream.

4 ~~96.~~ (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1] 122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising silica, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having a silica content of less than about 0.05% of the silica content of said feedwater stream.

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5 ~~97.~~ (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1]122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising bacteria, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having essentially zero bacteria content.

~~98~~. (Once Amended) Water produced according to the process of claim [1] 122, said water being the product stream of said process, said feedwater stream further comprising live viruses, and wherein said product stream is characterized by having essentially zero live viruses therein.

2. Kindly add the following new claim:

~~122~~. A process for treatment of a feedwater stream in membrane separation equipment, said membrane separation equipment comprising at least one unit having a membrane separator, to produce a low solute containing product stream and a high solute containing reject stream, said process comprising:

(a) providing a feedwater stream containing solutes therein, said solutes comprising

(i) hardness,

(ii) alkalinity, and

(iii) at least one molecular species which is sparingly ionized when in neutral or near neutral pH aqueous solution;

(b) concentrating said feedwater stream in a first unit of said membrane separation equipment after reducing the tendency of said feedwater to form scale when said

feedwater is concentrated to a preselected concentration factor at a selected pH, by effecting, in any order, two or more of the following:

(i) removing hardness from said feedwater stream;

(ii) removing substantially all alkalinity associated with hardness from said feedwater stream;

(iii) removing dissolved gas from said feedwater stream, whether initially present or created during said hardness or said alkalinity removal step;

(c) raising the pH of the product from step (a) to a selected pH of at least about 8.5, to urge said at least one molecular species which is sparingly ionized when in neutral or near neutral pH aqueous solution toward increased ionization;

(d) passing the product from step (c) above through said membrane separation equipment, said membrane separation equipment substantially resisting passage of dissolved species therethrough, to concentrate said feedwater to said preselected concentration factor, to produce

(i) a high solute containing reject stream, and

(ii) a low solute containing product stream.

123. Water produced according to the process of claim 122, wherein the Total Organic Carbon in said product stream is less than one percent of the Total Organic Carbon in said feedwater stream.